



PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

PCT**INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION REPORT**

(PCT Article 36 and Rule 70)

Applicant's or agent's file reference PH-1815-PCT	FOR FURTHER ACTION	See Notification of Transmittal of International Preliminary Examination Report (Form PCT/IPEA/416)
International application No. PCT/JP2003/010751	International filing date (<i>day/month/year</i>) 26 August 2003 (26.08.2003)	Priority date (<i>day/month/year</i>) 26 August 2002 (26.08.2002)
International Patent Classification (IPC) or national classification and IPC F01N 3/08, 3/02, 3/24		
Applicant HITACHI, LTD.		

<p>1. This international preliminary examination report has been prepared by this International Preliminary Examining Authority and is transmitted to the applicant according to Article 36.</p> <p>2. This REPORT consists of a total of <u>4</u> sheets, including this cover sheet.</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> This report is also accompanied by ANNEXES, i.e., sheets of the description, claims and/or drawings which have been amended and are the basis for this report and/or sheets containing rectifications made before this Authority (see Rule 70.16 and Section 607 of the Administrative Instructions under the PCT).</p> <p>These annexes consist of a total of _____ sheets.</p>
<p>3. This report contains indications relating to the following items:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> I <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Basis of the report II <input type="checkbox"/> Priority III <input type="checkbox"/> Non-establishment of opinion with regard to novelty, inventive step and industrial applicability IV <input type="checkbox"/> Lack of unity of invention V <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement VI <input type="checkbox"/> Certain documents cited VII <input type="checkbox"/> Certain defects in the international application VIII <input type="checkbox"/> Certain observations on the international application

Date of submission of the demand 26 August 2003 (26.08.2003)	Date of completion of this report 14 June 2004 (14.06.2004)
Name and mailing address of the IPEA/JP	Authorized officer
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I. Basis of the report**1. With regard to the elements of the international application:***

the international application as originally filed



the description:

pages

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V. Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement

1. Statement

Novelty (N)	Claims	2-10	YES
	Claims	1, 11	NO
Inventive step (IS)	Claims		YES
	Claims	1-11	NO
Industrial applicability (IA)	Claims	1-11	YES
	Claims	"	NO

2. Citations and explanations

Claims 1 and 11

The document JP 2002-129950 A ((Toyota Motor Corp.), 09 May 2002, fig. 1) cited in the international search report discloses the invention of an exhaust gas purification apparatus for a diesel engine, which comprises a NOx absorbing/reducing catalyst and a particulate filter, disposed in that order.

Claims 2-5 and 9

In addition to the explanation presented in relation to claim 1, above, the document JP 3-74561 A ((Mazda Motor Corp.), 29 March 1991, fig. 1) and the microfilm of the specification and drawings annexed to the request of Japanese Utility Model Application No. 400702/1990 ((Laid-open No. 87332/1992), (Mitsubishi Motors Corp.), 29 July 1992, fig. 1), which are cited in the international search report, disclose inventions provided with a means for heating when the temperature of the exhaust gas is low, wherein a hydrocarbon-adsorbing catalyst is disposed downstream from the particulate filter.

Claims 6-8 and 10

In addition to the explanations presented in relation to claims 1-5, above, the document JP 2001-50033

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A ((Hitachi, Ltd.), 23 February 2001, column 2, lines 5-15, paragraph 0070) cited in the international search report discloses the composition of a NOx adsorbing/reducing catalyst, and discloses an invention wherein when the amount of adsorbed NOx increases, the amount of fuel is increased or fuel is injected during the exhaust stroke.